QA Strategy

Goal:

Provide a comprehensive ambient air monitoring quality system that provides State, Local, and Federal decision makers with data of documented acceptable quality.

Objectives

- < Develop an understanding and respect of the various stakeholder goals for collecting ambient air monitoring data and the various levels of acceptable data quality.
- < Provide an integrated (State/Region/Headquarters) approach to ambient air quality monitoring quality system development and implementation
- < Review and solidify roles and responsibilities
- < Move towards the development of performance based measurements and assessments to identify acceptable data quality
- < Eliminate redundancies to improve cost efficiencies
- < Establish a graded quality system approach to allow resource prioritization toward measurement systems that are classified as critical.
- Provide a through review of regulations in order to identify requirements and those that could be considered guidance
- < Revision of regulations (CFR) and Guidance (Red Book Vol II)
- < Create an atmosphere of stakeholder cooperation and commitment to implementing the quality system
- < Establish a phased approach toward implementation, with a flexible time line to assure that each step is thoroughly completed.

Operating Assumptions

- < Quality assurance is an integral cost of monitoring to be shared by the decision makers.
- < States, EPA Regions, Headquarters all play an role in the quality system in order to ensure objectivity and provide independent validation of data quality

The Plan

1) Develop a QA Workgroup composed of:

- < 10 QA Managers from State/locals/Tribes Selected by STAPPA/ALAPCO
- < 10 Regional QA representatives (1 per Region)
- < 5-10 QA Team members fro OAQPS
- < Members of the National Monitoring Strategy Committee

A co-chair will be selected from each group described above to be responsible for the groups activities.

Members need to be selected that are willing to represent their constituents and have time to attend conference calls and write.

- **2**) **Have a QA Kickoff meeting** QA Workgroup would set agenda. 3-4 day meeting to present State, Regional, Headquarters perspectives on:
 - The current state of the ambient air monitoring quality system— what good, what's wrong
 - < Current roles of the States, EPA Regions, and Headquarters, and proposed changes
 - < Roles of regulation and guidance, identify what works and what doesn't
 - < Use of data quality objectives and performance based measurement systems
 - What constitutes an adequate quality system, how to assure consistency?
 - < Game plan for the modification/revision of the quality system
 - < Responsibilities for quality system implementation and oversight
 - < The level of resources necessary to support the quality system
 - < How to establish linkage and flexibility within the scope of the National Monitoring Strategy?
- 3) Revise the quality system- Send out for review
- 4) 2nd QA Meeting Presentation and discussion of the quality system and final revision
- 5) Revision to regulation and guidance

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The Plan (continued)

2. Have a QA Kickoff meeting-

- QA Workgroup would set agenda
- ► the current state of the ambient air monitoring quality system— what good, what's wrong
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The Plan (continued)

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